

# Improving Traffic Incident Management



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# Presentation Outline

- TIM Mission and Goals
- Effects of Traffic Incidents
  - Motorist Safety
  - Responder Safety & Mobility
  - Economic Impact
- NC TIM Strategic Plan

# TIM Mission and Goals

## Mission

Improve the safety of motorists and emergency responders while reducing traffic congestion and costs associated with traffic incidents.

## Goals

- Prevent Secondary Incidents
  - Clearing incidents as quickly and safely as possible
  - Not blocking lanes unnecessarily
  - Providing adequate traffic control
- Develop appropriate communications among agencies
- Provide timely, accurate, and useful info to travelers

# ECHS Mission Statement

## Mission

Establish highway safety goals and objectives and prioritize, implement and evaluate coordinated, multi-disciplinary policies and programs to reduce fatalities, injuries, and economic losses related to crashes.

*From News & Updates, Sept. 2004*

**ECHS**



**NC TIM Program**

**Safer Roads & Reduced Economic Impact**

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# Motorist Safety

## Secondary Crashes

- National studies indicate that secondary crashes account for over **20%** of all crashes.
- USDOT estimates that **18%** of the deaths on freeways are due to secondary crashes.

# Motorist Safety in NC

There were **17,851** reported crashes on NC's Interstate system in the one year period from November 1, 2003 until October 31, 2004. These crashes resulted in **8,701** injuries and **124** fatalities.

Based on the national statistics from the previous slide, this translates to **3,570** crashes that are secondary in nature which resulted in **22** fatalities.

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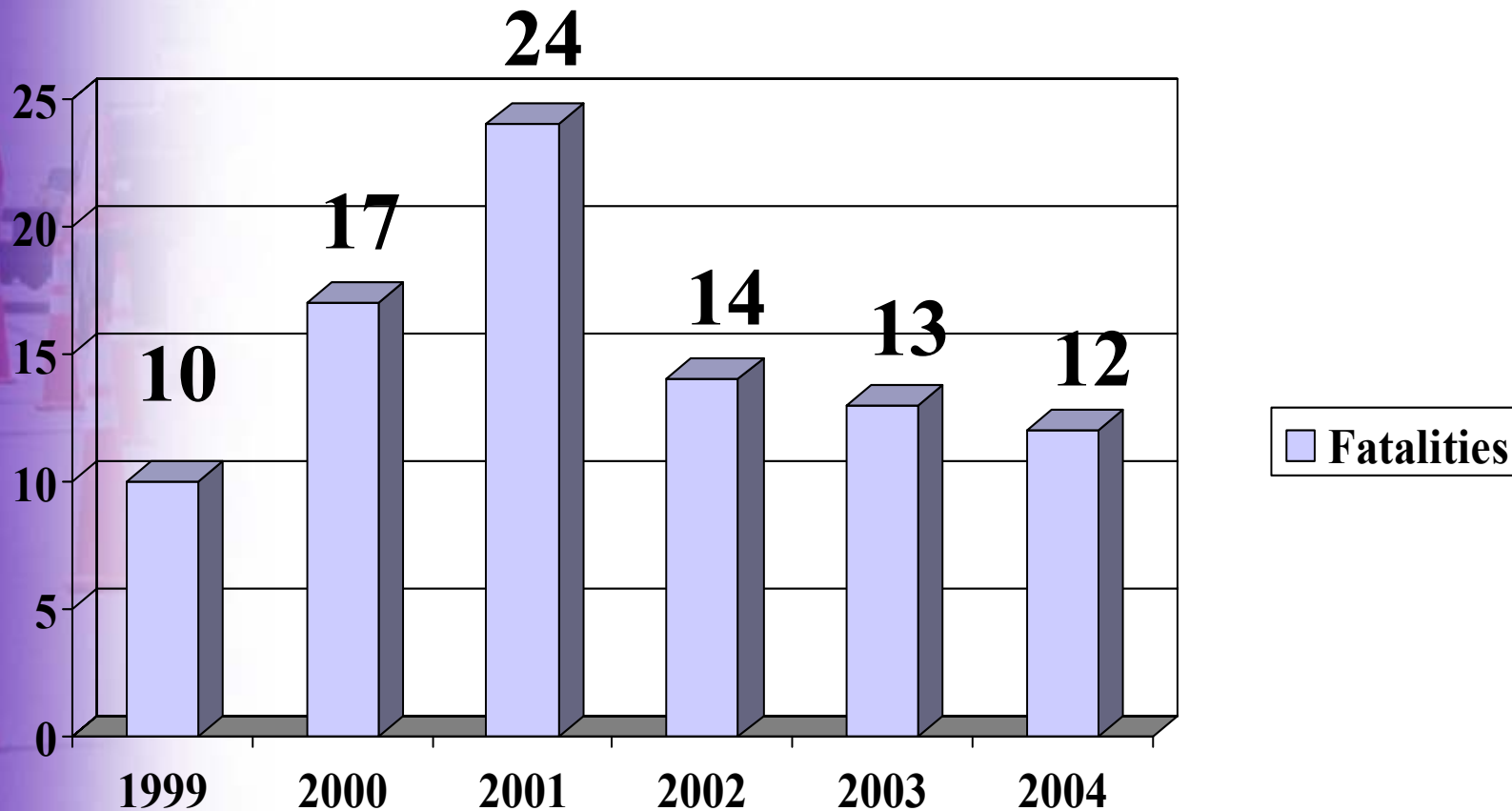
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# Responder Safety

## Officer Fatalities - Struck by Vehicles



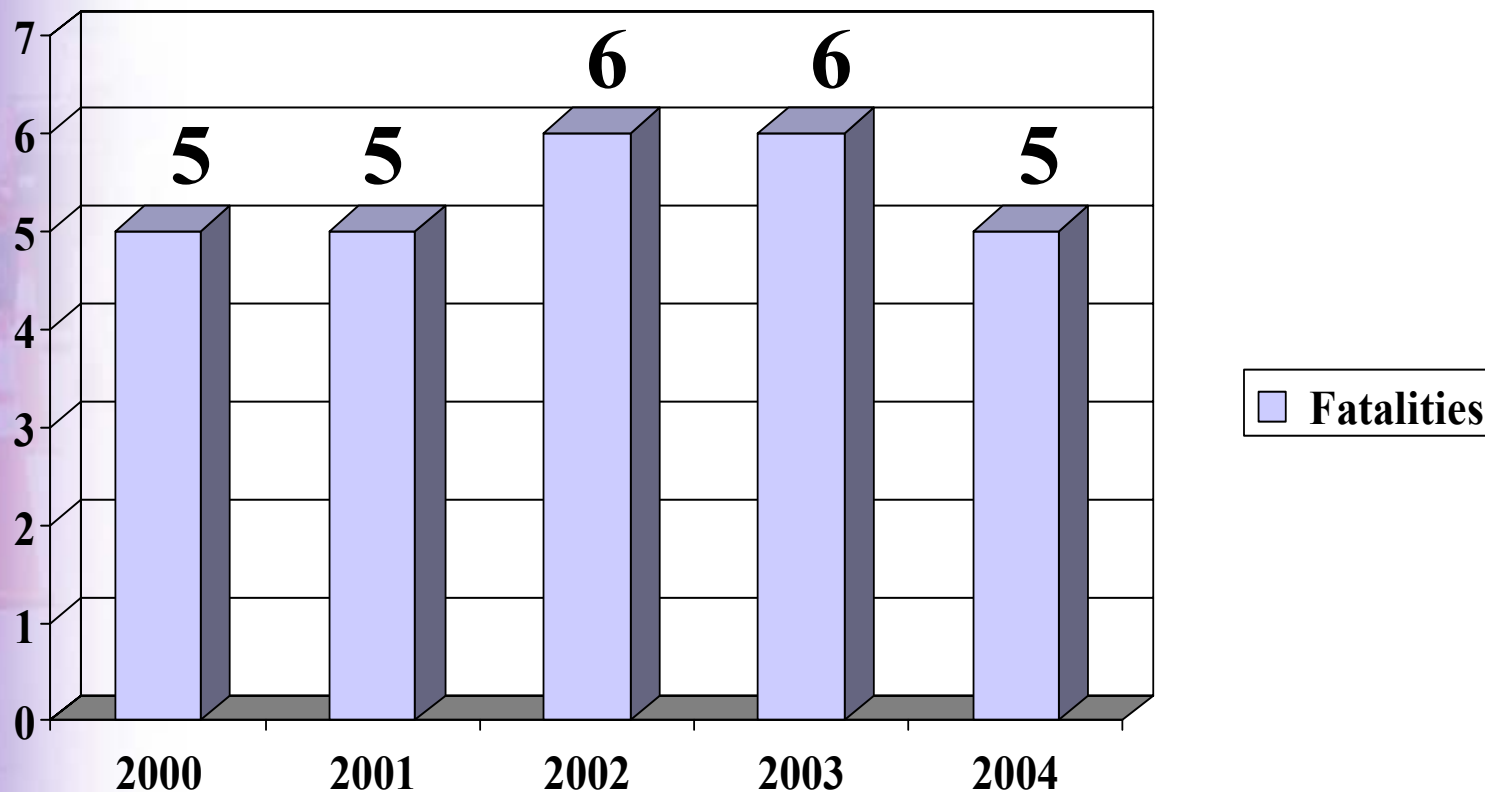
From the NLEOMF Web site

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# Responder Safety

## Firefighter Fatalities - Struck by Vehicles



From Firehouse.com

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# Responder Safety

According to USDOT, every year approximately 10,000 police cars, 2,000 fire trucks, and 3,000 other response vehicles (ambulances, tow trucks, etc.) are struck at or en route to incidents.



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**SMART**link  
NORTH CAROLINA

# Responder Mobility

Motorist, looking for a way around an incident, migrate to feeder streets, hindering response to non-related emergencies.



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# Economic Impact

Traffic congestion in North Carolina costs **\$775 million** annually in delays and wasted fuel.

94% of the \$267 billion worth of commodities delivered annually in North Carolina are transported on the state's highways.

*Provided by NCGO 3/05*

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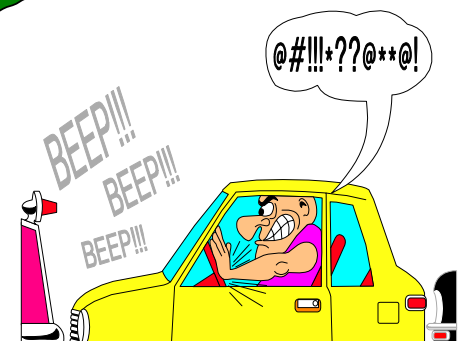
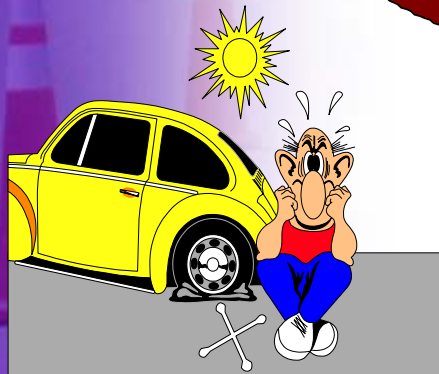
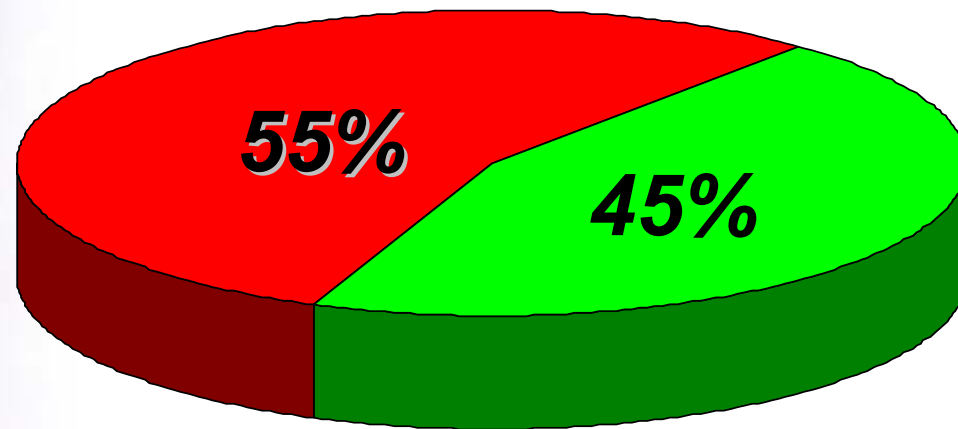
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# Causes of Congestion

Incidents

Recurring



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# Economic Impact

Given the data from the previous slides, incidents cost North Carolina motorists approximately **\$426 million** annually in delays and wasted fuel.

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# Nine Keys to Success

## for Traffic Incident Management Programs

1. TIM Strategic Plans
2. TIM Administrative Teams
3. Performance Measures
4. Responder and Motorist Safety
5. Response and Clearance Policies and Procedures
6. Procedures for Major Incidents
7. Integrated Interagency Communications
8. Transportation Management Systems
9. Traveler Information



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# TIM Strategic Plan for North Carolina

- NCDOT is beginning the process of developing a TIM Strategic Plan.
- NCDOT can't do it alone. For the plan to be successful and effective, cooperation of all emergency response agencies is required.

# TIM Strategic Plan for North Carolina

To address the *Nine Keys to Success*, policies, procedures, and legislation will need to be drafted or modified in the areas of:

- Emergency Vehicle placement
- Towing
- Small fuel spills
- HazMat cleanup
- Fatality investigations
- Removal of deceased

ETC.

# You Are Invited

**What:** Executive Level TIM Workshop

**When:** Monday, May 23rd from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm with lunch provided.

**Where:** *Tentative* - Parker Lincoln Building,  
Capital Blvd

One of the nation's top most experts, Mr. John O'Laughlin, will be providing information concerning Advanced Traffic Incident Management Operations.

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# Questions?

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